

**What is the difference between The Free Clinic of Danville, Inc.  
and Piedmont Access To Health Services, Inc. (PATHS)?**

Universal access to health care services is a national priority. Issues currently being examined include out-of-control health care spending, poor health, and the redesign of the health care financing system. Safety-net providers – in the form of free clinics and federally qualified community health centers (FQHC) – provide much needed support to fill service delivery gaps for the uninsured and underinsured.

There has been confusion with the differences between the Free Clinic of Danville and PATHS, which is an FQHC. The table below will summarize those differences.

<b>Critical Issues</b>	<b>PATHS (FQHC)</b>	<b>The Free Clinic of Danville</b>
<b>Regulatory Agencies</b>	Defined by Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act as an FQHC. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is responsible for oversight.	The Free Clinic is accredited through the Virginia Association of Free & Charitable Clinics. This is a voluntary accreditation.
<b>Primary Funding Mechanisms</b>	Federal grants; Medicaid; Medicare; Insurance payers; Public and private grants; Self-pay	Private sector: Local foundation grants and donations from the community. No Federal funding. No fees for services.
<b>Population Served</b>	Everyone. Including those with insurance and those without.	Uninsured citizens of Danville and Pittsylvania County with incomes at or below 200% of Federal Poverty Level
<b>Composition of Board of Directors</b>	Federal rules require that at least 51% of the board are consumers.	Comprised of area residents and community leaders
<b>Prescription Assistance</b>	Medications provided through private drug coverage benefits, at discounted rates using the 340B program, and through drug company sponsored patient assistance programs.	Medications are provided at no charge or up to \$5 per prescription if the patient fills the prescription locally. Many medications are donated for the uninsured but there may be a small processing fee for medication assistance and dispensing.
<b>Primary Care</b>	Provided by medical providers (doctors, nurse practitioners and physician assistants) employed by PATHS.	Provided primarily by volunteers with one paid Nurse Practitioner on staff
<b>Dental Care</b>	Provided by dental providers (dentists and hygienists) employed by PATHS.	Provided by volunteers
<b>Specialty Care</b>	Provided based on reimbursement, sometimes requiring patients to travel long distances to UVA in Charlottesville, VA	Provided by volunteers on site or local physicians in their private offices at no charge. Some specialty services are provided at UVA under the indigent care program.
<b>In-Patient Care</b>	Provided based on reimbursement, sometimes requiring patients to travel long distances to UVA in Charlottesville, VA	Scheduled admissions provided through indigent care at UVA but urgent/emergent admissions are assisted by our local hospital
<b>Out-of-Pocket fees for Patient</b>	Determined by Insurance, or after determining eligibility for sliding fee scales (lowest medical payment = \$25; lowest dental payment = \$50)	No Clinic fees for medical services
<b>Lab/Radiology</b>	Provided based on reimbursement, or as part of all-inclusive sliding fee co-payment	DRMC donates lab and limited radiology services to Free Clinic patients
<b>Economic Impact</b>	7:1	Minimum 3:1